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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ZEMEN EXPLAINS PURGE OF UNION RIGHTISTS

LD3122485 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1720 GMT 31 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Today's editorial of the Amharic daily, ADDIS ZEMEN, writes on the intrigues of rightroaders in antipopular activities. ADDIS ZEMEN recalls the recent measures taken upon rightroaders who had been in positions of responsibility at the All-Ethiopia Trade Union [AETU]. It also reminds its readers of an article on Sunday in which the Addis Ababa municipal assembly, in a message to the new AETU leadership, supported the expulsion of former office bearers. It quotes from this message, which in effect states that it was important to note that MEISON [All-Ethiopian Socialist Movement] had infiltrated industrial unions, farmers' and urban dwellers' associations not to mention government organizations.

So, it evidenced [as heard] that the campaign to expose these elements must be launched. Observing that the revolution has numerous enemies, the Amharic daily expresses the opinion that this would not deter the broad masses from prosecuting the revolution. The paper draws parallels between Trotsky's campaign to confuse the revolutionary forces in the USSR and EPRP's [Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party] role in temporarily confusing the situation here.

It continues by drawing parallels between the EPRP and rightwing MEISON, (?the latter having chosen) to describe itself as anti-EPRP. ADDIS ZEMEN pointed to the similarity with [the] EPRP, a self-proclaimed role as the party of the working class, and rightwing MEISON's statement in November 1976, which, in effect, demonstrates MEISON's intention to rally forces within it with the result of becoming a working class party itself. In conclusion, ADDIS ZEMEN notes timeliness and the just steps taken at the All-Ethiopia Trade Union, and encourages the exposure of all the workers who reflect the discredited political line.

THREE UNION 'RIGHTISTS' PLACED IN DETENTION

LD3015402 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 30 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The agricultural development workers of (Goma Hulet) in the southwest have held a meeting in which they exposed three rightists and had them placed in detention.

Among the members of this union, which is organized under the All-Ethiopia Trade Unions in the Union of Agricultural, Mining, Forestry and Fishery Workers, is also the chairman of the union, while six others confessed and asked to be pardoned.

PMAC MEMBER: PREPARE FOR 'VICTORY IN NORTH'

LD2920402 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 29 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] A 3-day seminar opened today at the Gondar municipality hall to examine whether the rural land proclamation had been properly implemented and to produce the necessary data for the team which has been sent to the region to study development projects. Regional administrators of subdistricts and districts, employees of the Ministry of Agriculture and Settlement and farmers representatives are taking part in the seminar, which was opened by the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] member assigned to the region.

In his opening speech, the PMAC member said that the broad masses had scored magnificent victories after forcing the king, who was the head of the feudal system, and his henchmen to kneel before them. The PMAC member said that those displaced by the war and the families of those killed in it would have to go on receiving help. He added that the broad masses must prepare themselves to win a victory in the north as they had done in the war in the east.

The PMAC member went on to say that the rural land proclamation had been properly implemented, calling on the participants to deliver the necessary data to the study team.

Prior to the PMAC member's speech, the regional director of the office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Settlement explained the objectives of the seminar and the study being carried out jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and Settlement and Addis Ababa University.

Present at the occasion were Ato Abebaw Yegzaw, vice administrator of the region, and regional heads of department.

PARIS JOURNAL REPORTS 'SECRET' TALKS WITH USSR, ERITREA

LD3017l0Y Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI in Arabic 27 May 78 p 1 LD

[Text] AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI has learned from official African sources close to the African-French summit meeting in Paris that a secret meeting was held between senior Soviet officials and Ethiopian and Eritrean officials in order to reach a peaceful settlement to the Eritrean problem. The sources said that the Soviet Union's real plan in the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea is not to help "crush" the Eritrean rebels, but to insure complete Ethiopian (and consequently Soviet) control over the ports of Massawa and Asab on the Red Sea and to open all routes to the capital, Asmara. It appears that the meeting achieved no positive results.

KENYA

POSTINDEPENDENCE BORROWING OVER 8 BILLION SHILLINGS

LD3113l0Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 31 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] The government borrowed over 8 billion shillings from external sources since independence to insure fast development in rural areas. This was disclosed yesterday by the deputy secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Mr James Mathenge, when he was addressing a seminar for senior government and parastatal [as received] officers in Mombasa. He noted that Kenya, as a developing country, had limited resources at her disposal and had to borrow. He added that all loans, grants and technical assistance received from donor countries and various organizations were used to supplement government efforts in development projects. Among such projects [are] the upper Tana River multipurpose reservoir and the big sugar projects in the rural areas. He emphasized that the government was borrowing wisely and within its ability to repay such loans.

SOMALIA

WSLF CLAIMS 368 ENEMY DEAD IN RECENT FIGHTING

LD311902Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Swahili 1530 GMT 31 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] recently killed 368 enemy soldiers, including many officers, and wounded many others after fierce engagements in areas [word indistinct] near Kabradahare. The WSLF also destroyed five tanks and other military vehicles.

Other reports say that the WSLF also attacked enemy troops in the town of (Lewinag), where they killed 16 soldiers.

TANZANIA

AUTHORITIES RELEASE 13 SWAPO DETAINEES

LD261718Y Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 26 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The Ministry of Home Affairs has said that only 13 SWAPO members were released from detention yesterday and not 18 as reported by one foreign news agency. According to an official with the ministry, six other non-SWAPO members were also released. They are South African nationals. Among those released include SWAPO's former information secretary, Andreas Chipanga. All the detainees left Dar es Salaam by air yesterday for various destinations in northern Europe and the U.S. The official said that Mr Chipanga went to Britain to join his family. Seven of the ex-detainees will live in Greece, 4 in Norway, 6 others in Sweden and 1 in the U.S.

Stockholm Reports Release

LD252234Y Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1700 GMT 25 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] We shall now talk about Namibia. Nineteen members of the South-West African People's Organization--SWAPO--were released from prison in Tanzania and flown to Europe today. Six persons from the group will be arriving in Sweden on Sunday, says the Swedish Foreign Ministry. Those released were originally imprisoned in Zambia in 1976, suspected of having planned a coup against SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma. They are regarded as representing a more conservative, pro-Western element in SWAPO, and there has been speculation that after their release they could cooperate with moderate leaders in Namibia and work out an agreement with South Africa about Namibian independence. Here is a report by (Lennart Winblad) from Nairobi: [begin recording]

There have been rumors in the past week that the SWAPO prisoners in Tanzania had been released or would be released, but it was only after they had left the country that the Tanzanian Government confirmed the news. All in all, 19 men have been released and they are now on their way to Copenhagen on a regular SAS flight from Dar es Salaam. The best known of the men now released is Andreas Chipanga. According to reports, he will settle in London while the other 18 are reported to have been granted political asylum in Sweden. Andreas Chipanga has had close contacts with Swedish parties and organizations. He was at one time SWAPO's chief of information.

The internment of these leading SWAPO members aroused displeasure in many parts of Western Europe, and the United States of America and Sweden have been fighting for their release. The matter was raised during Foreign Minister Karin Soder's African tour and it is said to have aroused irritation among the SWAPO leadership.

A SWAPO spokesman in Windhoek says that the release of these 19 former members is to be seen as a gesture of goodwill and that the South African authorities are now expected to release the SWAPO leaders imprisoned in Namibia or South Africa. [end recording]

VICE PRESIDENT TO VISIT SEYCHELLES 2-6 JUNE

LD311903Y Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1600 GMT 31 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Vice President Aboud Jumbe will make an official visit to Seychelles from 2 to 6 June at the invitation of the Seychelles Government. During his stay he is expected to attend the first anniversary celebrations of the Seychelles revolution of 5 June.

UGANDA

PRC TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN KAMPALA

Commerce Minister Greets Delegation

LD302336Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 30 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] The minister of commerce, Capt Noah Mohamed, has paid tribute to the Chinese Government for the assistance China has extended to Uganda during her struggle for economic independence.

The minister was speaking during a dinner party in honor of the visiting Chinese trade delegation.

The six-man delegation, led by the vice minister for foreign trade of the PRC, Mr Chen Chieh, is in Uganda for discussions with Uganda Government officials concerning development of trade relations between Uganda and China.

The minister told the visiting delegation that after the declaration of the economic war, Western countries, whose business concerns had controlled Uganda's economy, adopted a hostile attitude toward her. As a result, Uganda was subjected to a number of commercial measures which were not normally applied in business transactions. Despite this, he noted, the government and all Ugandans had stood firm and managed to overcome the difficulties.

He said that Uganda looks forward to China which, he said, has always fought on the side of the exploited developing countries.

Amin Receives Trade Delegation

LD311848Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] While receiving at Cape Town View a PRC trade delegation currently visiting Uganda, President Amin praised the Chinese leadership and people for their assistance to African countries, especially the freedom fighters in southern Africa. He told the delegation that Ugandans regarded the Chinese people as the best of friends not only of the Ugandans and Africans but also of all the oppressed people who are fighting to liberate their countries economically and politically.

President Amin also expressed thanks to the Chinese for the assistance they were giving to Uganda. "He observed that any assistance or loan given to any country by the Chinese Government has no strings, and is given with a clean heart for the development of that country. He recalled that when he was still the chief of staff in the Uganda Armed Forces, the Chinese gave some of the most sophisticated weapons to the Ugandan Army and trained Ugandans free of charge."

Mentioning the Kibimba rice scheme, President Amin said he would like the PRC to undertake more such schemes in Uganda. "On behalf of the members of the Uganda Armed Forces, he thanked the Chinese leader and people for this genuine assistance. He expressed gratitude to China for assisting Uganda to produce rice.

"Dr Amin said that Uganda and China will also cooperate in the field of mass media, and hoped that the two countries would soon sign an agreement so that the NCNA may have a representative in Uganda."

AMIN PRAISES NUMAYRI'S EFFORTS FOR UNITY

LD302345Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 May 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] President Amin has praised the efforts of President Numayri in bringing unity not only among Arab states but also among African countries. He said he greatly appreciates what President Numayri is doing now to bring good understanding between Syria and Egypt. The life president was receiving at Cape Town View the permanent secretary of the OAU Intergovernmental Council for Information in Africa, Mr Ibrahim (Dabag), a Sudanese national.

The life president stressed that when President Numayri takes the chairmanship of the OAU later this year, he is confident that President Numayri would work tirelessly to bring unity not only in the Arab world and between African countries but also among the Third World countries and all peace-loving countries of the world.

He noted that President Numayri is doing his best to bring good understanding among the Arabs, Palestine and African peoples.

CASTRO SENDS MESSAGE TO AMIN MARKING AFRICA DAY

LD311306Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 31 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] On the occasion of Africa Day and the 15th anniversary of the founding of the OAU, President Fidel Castro of Cuba has sent Dr Amin a message of congratulations. He said: On the occasion of Africa Day and the 15th anniversary of the founding of the OAU, I wish to convey to you and the people of your country, a message of congratulations on behalf of the people and the Government of the Republic of Cuba, with my highest considerations.

DETAINEE RELEASED IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY SHAKE-UP

LD251424Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 25 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Mr (Suleyman), whose release from detention had been ordered by Life President Idi Amin a year ago, but was still being detained due to reasons best known to the then minister of internal affairs, the late Oboth-Ofumbi, has been released. The president's orders were not carried out and he only discovered it this month in the shake-up of the ministry, which has now been taken over by life president himself.

CAMEROON

POLICE ARREST EQUATORIAL GUINEA REBELS

PA311537Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1354 GMT 31 May 78 PA

[Text] Douala, Cameroon, 31 May (EFE)--This morning, local police arrested in this city several leaders and members of the Revolutionary Union of Equatorial Guinea [Union Revolucionaria de Guinea Ecuatorial--URGE], an organization that opposes the Equatorial Guinea regime of Francisco Macias.

Among those arrested are several leaders of URGE's military arm who direct militants in an operation to create an armed front against Macias' government.

The police expected to find weapons and military stores in the house occupied by the members of URGE, but they found only some radio equipment--several transmitters and walkie-talkies.

In recent days, the police have intensified their search for URGE hideouts connections and contacts in Douala and in several other towns where it is believed that URGE followers, who advocate an armed struggle to overthrow Macias, are operating.

ZAIRE

PARIS PAPER INTERVIEWS MOBUTU ON FRENCH INTERVENTION

LD301339Y Paris LE MONDE in French 27 May 78 p 3 LD

[Jean-Pierre Langellier report: "President Mobutu Says He Was Not Warned That the Legionnaires Were About To Withdraw"]

[Excerpts] On Thursday 25 May in the VIP lounge of a big Paris hotel, Zaire head of state Gen Mobutu Sese Seko faced some 200 journalists just 4 hours after the French defense minister had announced the gradual withdrawal of the paratroops. The Zaire president says he first heard of this withdrawal on the radio. "All I knew," he said "was that the second foreign parachute regiment was going to be divided into two parts, one of which would stay while the other went to Lubumbashi to calm the Europeans who were beginning to panic. Mr Giscard d'Estaing did not inform me that the second foreign parachute regiment was about to withdraw."

However, Mr Mobutu seemed satisfied with the French military action. "The soldiers of the second foreign parachute regiment have accomplished their mission," he stated. "I am satisfied. We got all the help we asked for. I am not disappointed in Mr Valery Giscard d'Estaing. On the contrary, the French paratroopers have shed their blood for stability in Zaire. France is simply fulfilling its commitments to its African partners while certain other powers are content to use pious words. France is not playing the policeman in Africa."

Asked whether he fears a recurrence of the Kolwezi events in the near future, the Zairian head of state stressed that he does not fear the outbreak of guerrilla warfare: "All the rebels have been dispersed. They are being pursued." He then stressed that the disturbances only affected an extremely limited area.

When somebody remarks that these events might have weakened his regime, Mr Mobutu replied: "That's a joke. I received 98.16 percent of the votes without even taking part in the election campaign. How could that possibly suggest a weakened regime? The Western press makes value judgments which do not reflect the African situation. You always try to compare us with the Western way of life. I am the head of a recognized government, and I have my people's support. The people trust me. I have been in power since 24 November 1965. There has not been a curfew in Zaire for the past 10 years. We have had 10 years of calm and prosperity.

The 10th anniversary of my rise to power, 1975, unfortunately coincided with the takeover in Angola by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola which was installed by Cuban forces. Since then, two attacks have been made on us. All we want is to be left in peace for 2 or 3 years to allow me to reorganize the army I lead."

President Mobutu then denied the existence of any discontent in Shaba: "Our territory is being violated in Shaba, that is all. If there was any discontent there would be angry antigovernment demonstrations within my country. That sort of thing never happens."

"One Man"

Mr Mobutu thinks the attack on Kolwezi had been planned for a long time. "There have been infiltrations for the past 3 months. I sent my roving ambassador to warn President Kaunda on 28 December 1977. I went to meet him personally in the northeast of Zambia. He led me to believe that it was not true and that only certain Rhodesian elements belonging to the Zimbabwe African National Union and the Zimbabwe African People's Union were in training. He has now realized that I was right. The operation was mounted by so-called opponents living in Brussels who went to Havana. There was a second meeting in Algiers. The attack in the Shaba region was fixed for 10 June. We intended to alert international opinion on 1 June."

With regard to relations between Zaire and Belgium, Mr Mobutu stated: "Our relations with the Kingdom of Belgium are very good; there is just one man we do not get on with, and that is the foreign minister. Mr Tindemans and I are great friends. We have settled our differences."

President Mobutu then indicated that a pan-African force is being set up and that 50 Moroccan soldiers have already arrived in Kinshasa to prepare for the arrival of a Moroccan contingent the size of which he did not reveal. "I will go to Rabat next Monday to discuss this problem with King Hassan II."

The Zairian head of state also said that the safety of foreigners "will be guaranteed 100 percent." On this subject he revealed that "305 emigrants from Kolwezi have refused to be evacuated to Europe. They are at Lubumbashi," he said, "and will return to Kolwezi when 100-percent safety can be guaranteed."

INHABITANTS, WORKERS RETURNING TO KOLWEZI

LD312253Y Kinshasa AZAP in French 2200 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Text] Kolwezi--Thousands of people--men, women and children--who were still in the bush or stranded in various places following the events in Kolwezi have returned to the town.

About 500 people, state officials or those working in certain industrial firms, arrived back in Kolwezi this morning by train from [word indistinct] and Likasi. Furthermore, all the schools in the Kolwezi urban district opened their doors this morning. The same is true of the Brasimba factories and the Kankotwe flour mill, which have resumed operations. Since they opened, they have been experiencing a flood of returning workers. The drinking water and electricity installations have been restored throughout the town. Telephone service, which is still experiencing some connection difficulties between Kolwezi and (?Lubumbashi), was restored again only late on Tuesday night.

AZAP REPORTS CALM THROUGHOUT SHABA REGION

LD312301Y Kinshasa AZAP in French 2205 GMT 31 May 78 LD

[Summary] Lubumbashi--The situation is quiet throughout the Shaba region. In Kolwezi, where the invasion was carried out, the search operations continue and irregular [word indistinct] have already been stopped by the members of the Zairian armed forces. The commander of the first military region, whose main concern is the safety of people and property in the whole of the region, has stated that he is optimistic about the resumption of economic activity in this part of the republic. In Lubumbashi, the civilian population is (?returning to) its everyday occupations. Calm is returning through Shaba since the arrival of the Zairian troops, supported by the French troops, in all the strategic towns of the region.

KOLWEZI MINES SUFFER ONLY SLIGHT DAMAGE

LD311524Y Kinshasa AZAP in French 1845 GMT 30 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The Kolwezi mines have suffered only slight damage, Umba Kyamitala, president delegate of Gecamines, told AZAP today. He said that the Zairian engineers who remained at Kolwezi after the departure of the expatriate technicians have made regular visits to all Gecamines installations at Kolwezi. Resumption of production at the Kolwezi concentrator, he said, will enable supplies to be restored to the mines at Shituru and Likasi, currently working at 30 percent of capacity due to lack of concentrate from Kolwezi. The starting up of the Kamoto concentrator and the Luilu factories has been postponed for adjustments.

NIGERIA

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER GARBA GRANTS INTERVIEW TO BBC

LD310956Y London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 1830 GMT 30 May 78 LD

[Interview granted by Joseph Garba, Nigeria's commissioner for external affairs, to Richard Kershaw in London on 30 May--recorded]

[Text] [Kershaw] Well, clearly it is Africa that has been particularly bothering American policymakers. The Cubans, whom they like to call Russian surrogates, first became involved directly in Africa in Angola when given a good excuse by South Africa's equally direct involvement there, but since then there have been Cuban interventions in the Ethopia-Somalia conflict, Cuban assistance to guerrillas in other parts of southern Africa, and now they claim that they are backing recent (?rebel) incursions into Zaire's Shaba province. This of course led to the Belgian and French military intervention there also. Well, this afternoon I talked in London to the commissioner for external affairs of Nigeria, which is not only by far the biggest black African country but also the strongest, with a standing army of over 200,000 leftover from its own civil war. The Nigerians are not a socialist state; they still trade overwhelmingly with the West, but its military government has often threatened that it will take action against those countries it feels are frustrating black independence in southern Africa.

[Question] Commissioner, can I ask your reaction as running external affairs for Nigeria to the Western--by that I mean the French and the Belgian--intervention in Shaba province?

[Answer] Well, I think that if the French and the Belgians went in there ostensibly to rescue their nationals with the full agreement of the Government of Zaire, we would have nothing to say about it because Zaire is an independent country and has the right to invite whoever it wants to invite to do whatever it wants to do on its territory.

[Question] In other words, in that sense it would be justified?

[Answer] Well, I haven't finished. But if the real intention of the French and the Belgians was to go into Zaire to interfere in the internal affairs of that country, then we will of course protest.

[Question] Do you think President Mobutu has the right to ask foreign troops to come in not only to rescue their own nationals but also to help him from being destabilized, to use the current word?

[Answer] (?Well), first and foremost, we condemn any move to destabilize any African country, but having happened, it would have been better if the African country concerned was able to deal with the problem itself, but of course we accept that as an independent country he has a right to call in anyone who (?wants) to help him maintain his territorial integrity.

[Question] All commentaries on the situation in Zaire do suggest that the situation is thoroughly unstable. What do you think about the idea that there should be some sort of international force that should come in to try to protect Zaire's integrity?

[Answer] Let us say that if this proposal was made in other forums than the meeting of President Giscard with his Francophone friends from Africa, it would have received more sympathetic consideration.

But because of what we know the French are doing in Africa, their involvement in Chad, in Mauritania and then of course the defense pact which they signed with (?a few countries in the West), the West naturally gives itself the right to station, I think, troops in Ivory Coast, or I think use an airbase or something like that, [and this] makes us feel very worried about this proposal. I do not myself think that it will materialize because there are tremendous difficulties which you have to face to mount a force like that.

[Question] But, commissioner, there is the fact that Africa is politically divided and to some extent both sides--and these are African sides--are trying to destabilize each other. Shouldn't both sides be able to call on their friends or is that exactly what you fear that they might?

[Answer] Well, that is exactly what we fear. We think that whatever problems we have in Africa should be settled amicably within...under the auspices of the OAU, and I think this is what we tried to do last year when we had the Shaba incident. As you know, Nigeria was invited by the two countries concerned at that time to try to reconcile them. We did all we could, but I think for one or two reasons we didn't quite get to the bottom of the matter. So we still believe the OAU is the best instrument to use in cases like this rather than going outside the Continent of Africa.

[Question] Now, do you accept that the Cubans, as the Americans say, have been involved in the current attempt to destabilize Zaire, to plan this Shaba exercise?

[Answer] Well, it appears that the Americans, I mean did. [sentence as received] The Western countries are so mesmerized by the Cubans that everything that happens in Africa today is attributed to the presence of the Cubans. I don't know. I think that Africans have the capability to train forces, you know, without necessarily calling on the Cubans. But having said that, I cannot confirm or deny. I mean, we all know that the Cubans are in that area and if they were called upon to do this thing, I cannot say they would or would not do it.

[Question] The Cubans are palpably in Africa. They are in Angola, they have been helping in Ethiopia and other places. You say that you are frightened by the idea of outside forces coming in to help all over the place, but the Cubans are there. Don't you expect the West will have to react and is now reacting to the fact that the Cubans [are] involved in several situations?

[Answer] Why should the West react? The Cubans were in Africa at the invitation of independent African countries. I, well...I think the West...

[Question] But not in Shaba at the invitation of Zaire.

[Answer] Allright, but I think the West has lost its...I mean any claim they have to reacting by going into Zaire and doing what they have done, and by proposing this force which will be necessarily equipped...organized, equipped and maintained by...you know by them. So I do not see why they should complain.

[Question] Can I take you on to the Rhodesian situation, which is perhaps nearer to Britain? Are you opposed to the internal settlement which is based on the principle that there are going to be elections and going on to independence by the end of this year?

[Answer] We oppose it, we condemn it and we'll work to kill it.

[Question] Can you say why you condemn it?

[Answer] Because it is a recipe for civil war, and we don't want civil war in Zimbabwe after independence. We want stability.

[Question] I do not want to sound paranoid about the Cubans, but let me raise them once again. Would you accept Cuban involvement in the liberation movement into Rhodesia, Zimbabwe?

[Answer] As I said to your first question about the Cubans, we Africans would rather, you know, settle our own problems ourselves. We would like to fight our own battles. But when we are faced with odds like we are faced with now in southern Africa--South Africa is heavily involved in Rhodesia, they are involved in Namibia, they were involved in Angola and that is why the Cubans came in in the first place. If they continue to be involved and attribute to themselves the right to interfere, then we have the right also to call on our friends.

[Question] You in Nigeria have by far the biggest standing army in Africa. Would you, if you were asked in Nigeria, be prepared to send troops to help the Patriotic Front?

[Answer] I do not see why not. I think if the Patriotic Front asked us under the auspices of the OAU, we will certainly go to help them.

[Question] They haven't asked you yet?

[Answer] They haven't asked us, and I think quite rightly they say they want to do their own fighting themselves. It is always better when you are fighting for your country to do the fighting yourself.

[Question] You sound as if you are totally, so to speak, committed to the Patriotic Front as the natural future government of Rhodesia?

[Answer] I think we have been misunderstood. It was Nigeria, in fact in Libreville, when OAU was according recognition to the Patriotic Front, that proposed an amendment to the resolution that said we should give the Patriotic Front military recognition, not political. We deleted the world "political" because if we did not we would have given the impression that we are imposing a government on the people of Zimbabwe.

[Question] Do you accept, sir, as a country which is trying to return from military to civilian rule, do you accept that the holding of free and fair elections is the real future for Rhodhesia?

[Answer] Definitely, definitely. We support this, and I think the Patriotic Front have themselves supported the principle of free and fair elections.

[Question] The Anglo-American plan for Rhodesia, has been somewhat put to one side, perhaps, by the internal settlement. But the Anglo-American plan did call for a period. under international guarantees. You would be prepared to put Nigerian troops in there as part of the United Nations or international forces that would guarantee such an election?

[Answer] In so doing we would be fulfilling our obligation to the UN, as we have just done in Lebanon. We will gladly do so.

[Question] If--and it is a long if--Rhodesia were to become independent, and Namibia, what then? South Africa is really the strong white-ruled country in southern Africa. What do you see happening?

[Answer] Well, this is why I was laying emphasis on the word "stability" after independence in Zimbabwe. I believe that if we have an independent Zimbabwe and Namibia under majority rule, a progressive government, a government that is the answer to the wishes and aspirations of the people, this development alone should make some changes in South Africa. You see, we have never regarded the question of South Africa as a colonial problem. They, of course, have propaganda reasons. They give that impression. But we accept the presence of the whites in South Africa, and we have no intention to push them to the sea, as they claim. All we want is for some changes to occur in South Africa, the obnoxious apartheid system to be removed and let everybody in South Africa exercise his right, you know, to choose (?his) or her leaders and also to live in freedom. That's all we ask for in South Africa. We believe that a positive development in Zimbabwe and Namibia will help to bring this about.

[Question] But that is the big one. Of those two, it's two down and one to go.

[Answer] I agree.

[Question] You have a few months ago warned that Nigeria is prepared to take--and I quote you--retaliatory economic action against any country seen to be frustrating liberation in southern Africa. What did you mean by that?

[Answer] Just that, that we are prepared to go to all lengths, we are prepared to make sacrifices, economic sacrifices, to deal with any country that will frustrate our aspirations in southern Africa.

[Question] Does that mean you would be prepared to use the economic weapon, the oil weapon, against countries like Britain?

[Answer] Yes, but for ... we of course realize that because of international conspiracy, there is not much you can do with the oil weapon. I say this because, once the oil leaves your shores and goes on the high seas you are not in a position to control its destination. So we may well be selling oil to people who make all sorts of promises not to send this oil to South Africa but who eventually send the oil to South Africa. We know this happens.

[Question] You are a big market too, I mean you are a big trading partner. Would you be prepared to take economic sanctions and refuse to trade with countries who you feel are conspiring with South Africa?

[Answer] Well, I think we do these things in stages. We do them on a selective basis. We do what we can, but we do not want to go out of our way to hurt ourselves unduly, but we do, we make the sacrifices that we think we can, you know, make [them] without really making our position untenable.

[Question] Finally, commissioner, you are returning to civilian rule after a long time under military rule. When is that going to happen and are you sure it is going to happen?

[Answer] Definitely, because, as I said, we came into power in 1975. Within 2 days of coming into power, we articulated a long program, our political program, with a legal return to civilian rule. This program has been pursued relentlessly, and in fact most of it is ahead of schedule. Politics will be returned in a few months' time.

[Question] That means political parties can operate?

[Answer] Political parties can operate in a few months' time, and comes October 1979 we will go back to civilian rule.

[Question] And when is the election?

[Answer] Well I think just before, you know, October '79.

[Question] After which, what? You return to the barracks?

[Answer] Definitely.

[Kershaw] Thank you, commissioner.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

CUBAN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS COMPLETE PROJECTS

PA310336Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 May 78 PA

[Text] Cuban internationalist construction workers have turned over to the Sao Tome and Principe Government two completely finished apartment buildings, it was reported in Luanda, Angola.

During the ceremony on this occasion, Sao Tome and Principe Foreign Minister Leonel Mario d'Alva and Public Works and Environment Minister Flavio dos Santos stressed the effort made by the Cuban construction workers' brigade during the past 9 months.

ANGOLA

DO NASCIMENTO ACCUSES SOUTH AFRICA OF HAVING NUCLEAR ARMS

PA010005Y Paris AFP in English 2236 GMT 31 May 78 PA

[Text] United Nations, New York, May 31 (AFP)--Angolan Prime Minister Lopo do Nascimento (?tonight accused) South Africa of having nuclear arms and said South African troops used unidentified weapons in an attack into Angola this [word indistinct].

Mr Do Nascimento, addressing the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament, said an investigation by his government at the site of the May 4 attack found that weapons "which we had no knowledge of [words indistinct]" had been used, causing victims to suffer "the most horrible of deaths." He continued: "The possession of nuclear weapons by the Government of South Africa constitutes a particularly grave danger to peace in Africa and the world." The construction of a missile base in Zaire under a contract signed by the Zairese Government with the West German firm Otrag was "the barrel of a gun aimed at the heart of my country," he declared.

Angola's Marxist premier said the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) wanted to bring some Latin American military regimes into the alliance and to give a world role to South Africa.

At the same time, he continued, NATO would (?impose) its influence in south [word indistinct] to safeguard the long-term economic interests of NATO countries in the region.

The idea behind this southern Atlantic alliance would be to create the political and military means to thwart progressive African states and liberation movements in southern Africa, Mr Do Nascimento said.

He continued: "A particularly grave danger to the peace and security of the peoples stems from the fact that, within the framework of these plans, the formation and consolidation of a nuclear belt involving South Africa and some Latin American nations is becoming increasingly imminent."

RHODESIA

SITHOLE RETURNS FROM UK VISIT, COMMENTS ON TALKS

LD3014247 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 May 78 LD/CA

[Text] A member of the Executive Council, the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, has told the British Government that an all-party conference on Rhodesia is a nonstarter. Interviewed in Salisbury on his return from London, where he held talks with the foreign secretary, Dr Owen, Mr Sithole said he had advised the Callaghan government that such a meeting could only serve to wreck the Salisbury accord. Mr Sithole said he made it clear that the transitional government is not interested in issues which would deviate from the agreement, since the fundamental issue, majority rule based on one-man, one-vote, has been resolved and a date set for independence. He added that arising from his meeting with Dr Owen it's apparent that the British Government is still intent on calling an all-party summit on Rhodesia.

Mr Sithole, who is also president of ZANU, was accompanied on his London visit by the joint minister of combined operations, Mr Kadzviti, and the legal adviser of the party, Mr Mafara.

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